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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
MAINE LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION
22 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0022
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WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

PERMIT

FORESTRY OPERATIONS PERMIT FOP 944

The staff of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission, after reviewing the application and supporting documents submitted by George Haley to Forestry Operations Permit FOP 944, finds the following facts:

1. Applicant: George Haley
P.O. Box 493
Rangeley, ME 04970

Agent: Daniel Aleck
PO Box 1194
Rangeley ME 04970
2. Date of Completed Application: July 14, 2015
3. Location of Proposal: Rangeley Plt, Franklin County
Lot #20 on Plan 05
4. Zoning: (D-RS2) Community Residential Development Subdistrict
5. Waterbody: None
6. Approximate Time Period of Operations: July, 2015 –July, 2017 (Monday Thru Friday 7 AM-4 PM)

Proposal & Site Conditions

7. The applicant proposes to conduct timber harvesting activities on approximately 56 acres of his land in Rangeley Plantation, with all 56 acres located within a (D-RS2) Community Residential Development Subdistrict. The harvesting will be conducted by J&S Logging of Rangeley, Maine.
8. The forest stand in the harvest area is a made up of four different stand types; S3A (38 Acres Seg. 001) Mature Softwood- Spruce and Fir, M3B (14 Acres Seg. 008) Mixed wood Fir, White Birch Red Maple, Spruce, Sugar Maple, Yellow Birch, and Poplar (2 Acres Seg. 014) (2 Acres Seg. 016).

9. M3B Stands totaling 4 Acres will be restored back to open field, leaving wildlife mast trees for wildlife browsing. A seventy five foot buffer, with less than 30% basal area and no opening greater than 250 square feet, will be retained along the existing small stream in this segment. The remaining 52 Acres will be harvested as a light thinning with no more than 30% total volume removed. The target species will be short lived trees and those at risk of mortality, including heavily leaning trees, trees with dead tops, and trees having poor form. A shelterwood system will be established to promote the growth of the understory regeneration. The harvest would be conducted using a feller-buncher with grapple skidder and roadside de-limber. The proposed harvest would remove the majority of spruce and fir greater than 6-12 inches DBH (Diameter at Breast Height). No clear-cuts would be created larger than 4 acres. The proposed harvest would be conducted under frozen or dry conditions in the winter or dry summer months. Start of the harvest will be July 2015 and end of the harvest will be July of 2017. In 1-2 years, the forest floor should regenerate to a point where underlying species begin to grow, and eventually this new stand will create a healthier and more wind firm stand than the current one. In future years, the new growth will create an excellent noise and sight buffer of the harvest area from Race Track Road and neighboring properties. A fifty foot buffer from Race Track Road will be left per LUPC vegetation clearing standards.
10. Roads and water crossings will be created following the state of Maine "Best Management Practices for Forestry: Protecting Maine's Water Quality" publication and following LUPC road and water crossing standards. Only one road is proposed to be constructed through the middle of the property in order to reach the remaining property outside of LUPC jurisdiction. Race Track Road would be used for access to the timber harvest with a landing area also located on site.
11. The soils within the harvest area are identified in the U.S. Dept of Agriculture's soil survey as loamy, moderately well drained. The applicant describes the slopes within the harvest area as upland with long, gently sloping ridge. There is one small stream draining less than 50 acres present on the property and the harvest area will be greater than 75 feet away from the stream, with less than 30% volume removed within 75 feet of the stream.
12. The applicant states that work would start at 7am and end by 4pm Monday thru Friday. Any work done on Saturday's would start at 8am and end by 4pm. The abutters with camps or homes would be contacted and advised of the operation as a courtesy. The density of camps in this area is low.
13. The timber harvest activities would be conducted in conformance with the Commission's Standards for Timber Harvesting, Section 10.27, E of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards.

Review Comments

14. The Maine Forest Service has reviewed the proposal and made no response.
15. The Rangeley Plantation First Assessor has reviewed the proposal and made no response.

16. The facts are otherwise represented in Forestry Operations Permit Application FOP 944 and supporting documents.

Based upon the above Findings, the staff concludes that if carried out in compliance with the Conditions below, the proposal will meet the Criteria for Approval, Section 685-B(4) of the Commission's Statutes, 12 M.R.S.A.

Therefore, the staff approves the application of George Haley with the following conditions:

1. The Standard Conditions (ver. 9/84), a copy of which is attached.
2. The permittee shall comply with the Standards for Timber Harvesting, Sections 10.27,E, and the Standards for Roads and Water Crossings, Section 10.27,D, of the Commission's Land Use Districts and Standards, copies of which is attached.
3. All practicable steps shall be taken to prevent damage to advanced regeneration in order to minimize the adverse aesthetic impacts of the operation.
4. All operations shall be stopped where the continuation of such operations will cause or contribute to the occurrence of erosion or the sedimentation of surface waters, whether such occurrence is precipitated by exceptionally wet weather, the failure of water control measures, or other factors. Adequate steps must be taken immediately to stop any erosion or sedimentation of surface waters and to correct the situation which led to such occurrence. For the purposes of this action erosion is defined as evidence of rill or gully erosion.
5. If such trees exist within the operating area, at least four hardwoods greater than or equal to 12 inches in diameter shall be left standing per acre so as to provide future cavity trees for wildlife. Such trees need not be evenly distributed, but may be grouped together.
6. Skid roads shall be constructed using the following specifications for water control measures, including culverts, dips, water turnouts, and water bars:

<u>Slope</u>	<u>Spacing</u>
0 - 2%	500 - 300 feet
3 - 5%	250 - 180 feet
6 - 10%	167 - 140 feet
11 - 15%	136 - 127 feet
16 - 20%	125 - 120 feet
21%+	100 feet

Water control measures shall be spaced at shorter intervals than specified above if necessary in order to avoid accelerated erosion or sedimentation of surface waters.

7. Upon completion of use of skid roads, water bars shall be properly installed according to the following slope requirements:

<u>Skid Trail Slope</u>	<u>Spacing</u>
0 - 2%	250 feet
3 - 5%	200 - 135 feet
6 - 10%	100 - 80 feet
11 - 15%	80 - 60 feet
16 - 20%	60 - 45 feet
21%+	40 feet

8. Twitch trails or skid trails shall be located and designed to maximize use of the water control and erosion and sedimentation prevention measures described for skid roads in all cases where it may reasonably be anticipated that use of the trail will result in the creation of a skid trail. Slash and debris shall be placed in all twitch trails and skid trails to retard runoff and improve erosion control. In all cases where twitch trails or skid trails become skid roads (where the trail is used enough to expose significant areas of mineral soil) all practicable water control measures shall be immediately implemented including strict adherence to the provisions of the permittee's proposals which call for water bars and seeding.
9. Additional water bars shall be located approximately 50 feet above, and at the bottom of sections of such trails which exceed 25 percent in slope for a distance of 100 feet or more.
10. If water control measures beyond those specified herein prove to be necessary in order to reasonably avoid accelerated erosion or sedimentation of surface waters, such additional measures must be employed.
11. Time of operations shall be from 7:00AM to 4:00PM, Monday thru Friday and 8:00AM to 4:00PM on Saturdays.
12. The period of operations shall be during frozen ground or dry conditions as proposed from the date of permit authorization to July 28, 2017.

This permit is approved only upon the proposal as set forth in the application and supporting documents, except as modified in the above stated conditions, and remains valid only if the permittee complies with all of these conditions. Any variation from the application or conditions of approval is subject to prior Commission review and approval. Any variation undertaken without Commission approval constitutes a violation of Land Use Planning Commission law. In addition, any person aggrieved by this decision of the staff may, within 30 days, request that the Commission review the decision.

DONE AND DATED AT WEST FARMINGTON MAINE THIS 28 DAY OF JULY, 2015.

By:



For Nicholas Livesay, Executive Director